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Second Edition of *The Random House  
Dictionary of the English Language*

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## mariposa lily

dynam. See Boyle's law.) [1685-1900; named after Edme Marquette (d. 1661), French physicist]

**mar-i-po/sa li/y** (mar'a po/sa -zai), any lily of the genus *Cochortus*, of the western U.S. and Mexico, having tuliplike flowers of various colors. Also called *mar-i-po/sa*, *maripo/sa tu/pit*. [1850-65; Amer.; < Sp *mariposa* butterfly, moth; so named because blooms were likened to butterflies]

**Mar-is** (mar'is), n. Roger (Eugene), 1931-85, U.S. baseball player.

**mar-ish** (mar'ish), Achaean. —n. 1. a marsh. —adj. 2. marshy. [1300-50; ME *maret* + MF, see MARAIS]

**Mar-i-sat** (mar'i sat'), n. one of a series of geostationary communications satellites that relay telecommunications between ships at sea and shore stations. [maritime satellite]

**Mar-i-sol** (mar'i sol'), n. (Marisol Escobar) born 1930, Venezuelan artist, in U.S. since 1950.

**Mar-ist** (mar'ist, mar'-), n. Rom. Cath. a member of a religious order founded in Lyons, France, in 1816 for missionary and educational work in the name of the Virgin Mary. [1875-80; < F *Mariste*. See MARY, -IST]

**Mar-i-talm** (mar'e tālm'), n. Jacques (zhák), 1882-1973, French philosopher and diplomat.

**mar-i-tal** (mar'i tl), 1. of or pertaining to marriage; conjugal; matrimonial: *marital vows*; *marital discord*. 2. Archaic. of or pertaining to a husband. [1595-1605; < L *maritius* of married people, deriv. of *maritus* of marriage. See MARRY, -AL'] —*mar-i-tal*, adj.

**mar/i-tal ther/apy**, a psychotherapeutic treatment for married couples, who are seen by a therapist both individually and jointly to assist them in resolving various problems related to their marriage.

**mar/i-time** (mar'i tim'), adj. 1. connected with the sea in relation to navigation, shipping, etc. 2. of or pertaining to the sea: *maritime resources*. 3. bordering on the sea: *maritime provinces*. 4. living near or in the sea: *maritime plants*. 5. characteristic of a sailor; nautical: *maritime clothing*. [1540-50; < L *maritimus* pertaining to the sea, equiv. to *mar-i* (s. of *mare* sea) + *-time* adj. suffix]

**Mar/i-time Alps'**, a range of the Alps in SE France and NW Italy.

**mar/i-time belt'**, Law. the part of the sea that is within the jurisdiction of the bordering states.

**mar/i-time law'**, the body of law relating to maritime commerce and navigation, and to maritime matters generally. [1860-65]

**Mar/i-time Prov/inces**, the Canadian provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. Also called *Mar/i-times*. —*Mar/i-times*, n.

**Mar-i-tza** (ma ret'sa), n. a river in S Europe, flowing from S Bulgaria along the boundary between Greece and European Turkey and into the Aegean. 300 mi. (485 km) long.

**Mar-i-u-pol** (mar'oo pol'; Russ. ma uyi oo' pol'), n. a city in SE Ukraine, on the Sea of Azov. 503,000. Formerly (1948-80), Zhdanov.

**Mar-i-us** (mar'e os, mar'-), n. Gaius, c155-86 n.c., Roman general and consul; opponent of Lucius Cornelius Sulla.

**Mar-i-vaux** (ma re vo'), n. Pierre Carlet de Chamblain de (pyer kar le' da shān blān' dō), 1688-1763, French dramatist and novelist.

**mar-jo-laine** (mär'ja lān'), n., pl. *taînes* (lān'; Fr. -lān') for 2. 1. (Italics) French marjoram. 2. a long, narrow cake with straight sides, usually consisting of layers of meringue and chocolate butter-cream and containing chopped nuts. [ < F; OF *majorane* < ML *majorana*; see MARJORAM]

**mar-jo-ran** (mär'jar am), n. any of several aromatic herbs belonging to the genus *Origanum*, of the mint family, esp. O. *majorana* (*sweet marjoram*), having leaves used as seasoning in cooking. Cf. *oregano*. [1350-1400; ME *majorane* < ML *majorana*, var. of *majorca*, alter. of L *amāracus* < Gk *amárakos* marjoram]

**Mar-jory** (mär'ja rē), n. a female given name, form of Margaret. Also, *Mar/jo-rie*.

**mark'** (märk), n. 1. a visible impression or trace on something, as a line, cut, dent, stain, or bruise: a small mark on his arm. 2. a badge, brand, or other visible sign assumed or imposed: a mark of his noble rank. 3. a symbol used in writing or printing: *punctuation mark*. 4. a sign, usually an X or cross, made instead of a signature by someone who does not know how or is unable to write his or her own name. 5. an affixed or impressed device, symbol, inscription, etc., serving to give information, identify, indicate origin or ownership, attest to character or comparative merit, or the like, as a trademark. 6. a sign, token, or indication: to bow as a mark of respect. 7. a symbol used in rating conduct, proficiency, attainment, etc., as of pupils in a school: good marks; bad marks. 8. something serving as an indication of position, as a landmark. 9. a recognized or required standard of quality, accomplishment, etc.; norm: His dissertation was below the mark. 10. distinction or importance; repute; note: a man of mark. 11. a distinctive trait or characteristic: the usual marks of a gentleman. 12. (usually cap.) U.S. Mil. a designation for an item of military equipment in production, used in combination with a numeral to indicate the order of adoption, and often abbreviated: a *Mark-4 tank*; an *M-1 rifle*. 13. an object aimed at; target: to aim at the mark. 14. an object or end desired or striven for; goal. 15. Slang. a. an object of derision, scorn, manipulation, or the like: He sees an easy mark for criticism. b. the intended victim of a swindler, hustler, or the like: The cardsharp picked their marks from among the tourists on the cruise ship. 16. Track. the starting line. 17. Boxing. the middle of the stomach. 18. Lawn Bowling. Jack (def. 17). 19. Bowling. a strike or spare. 20. Naut. any of the distinctively marked points on a deep-sea lead line, occurring

at levels of 2, 3, 5, 7, 10, 13, 15, 17, and 20 fathoms above the lead. Cf. *deep* (def. 35). 21. a tract of land that may have been held in common by a primitive or early medieval community of peasants in Germany. 22. *Archaeic or Hist.* a boundary; frontier. 23. beside the mark, not pertinent; irrelevant. 24. *bless* or *save the mark!* (used as an exclamation of disapproval, contempt, impatience, etc.) Also, *God bless* or *save the mark!* 25. *make one's mark*, to attain success or fame; achieve one's ambition: He set out to make his mark as a writer. 26. *on your mark* or *marks!* (in calling the start of a race) take your places: On your mark! Get set! Go! Also, *get ready!, ready!* 27. *wide of the mark*, far from the target or objective; inaccurate or irrelevant: My first guess was wide of the mark.

—v.t. 28. to be a distinguishing feature of: a day marked by rain. 29. to put a mark or marks on; to mark each box with an X. 30. to give a grade for; put a grade on: to mark the final exams. 31. *scent-mark* (def. 2). 32. to furnish with figures, signs, tags, etc., to indicate price, quality, brand name, or the like: We marked all the books with prices. 33. to trace or form by or as if by marks (often fol. by *out*): to mark out a plan of attack. 34. to indicate or designate by or as if by marks: to mark passages to be memorized. 35. to single out; destine (often fol. by *out*): to be marked out for promotion. 36. to record, as a score. 37. to make manifest: to mark approval with a nod. 38. to give heed or attention to: Mark my words! 39. to notice or observe: to mark a change in the weather.

—v.i. 40. to take notice; give attention; consider. 41. *scent-mark* (def. 1). 42. *mark down*, to reduce the price of: These towels have been marked down. 43. *mark off*, to mark the proper dimensions or boundaries of; separate: We marked off the limits of our lot with stakes. 44. *mark time*. See *time* (def. 45). 45. *mark up*, a. to mark or deface with marks. b. to mark with notations or symbols. c. to fix the selling price of (an article) by adding to the seller's cost an amount to cover expenses and profit: to mark up dresses 50 percent. d. to increase the selling price of. [bef. 900; (n.) ME *Oe* *mark* mark, sign, banner, dividing line, borderland; c. G *Mark* borderland, unit of weight, ON *mrpk* forest (orig. borderland), unit of weight, Goth *marka* boundary, borderland, L *margin* (v.) ME *marken*, OE *marcian*; c. OFris *merkia*, OHG *markōn* *ON* *marka* to plan] —Syn. 10. eminence, consequence. 11. feature, stamp, print. 14. purpose, objective. 34. identify, label, tag. 37, 38. note. 39. eye, regard, spot.

**mark<sup>2</sup>** (märk), n. 1. the monetary unit of Germany since 1871; originally a silver coin. Cf. *Deutsche mark*, *ostmark*, *reichsmark*. 2. the marks of Finland. 3. Also, *merk*, a former silver coin of Scotland, equal to 13s. 4d. 4. a former money of account of England, equal to 13s. 4d. 5. a former coin of Estonia, the 1/10th part of a kroon; replaced by the sent after 1927. 6. a former European unit of weight, esp. for gold and silver, generally equal to 8 ounces (249 grams). [bef. 900; ME; OE *marc* unit of weight < ML *marca* < Gmc; see MARK<sup>1</sup>]

**Mark** (märk), n. 1. one of the four Evangelists: traditionally believed to be the author of the second Gospel. 2. the second Gospel: to read aloud from *Mark*. 3. King Arthurian Romance, ruler of Cornwall, husband of Isolde and uncle of Sir Tristram. 4. Saint. See *Marcus*, *Saint*. 5. a male given name, form of *Marcus*.

**Mar-kan** (mär'kan), adj. Mercurian.

**Mark An-to-ny** (märk an'to né). See *Antony*, *Mark*.

**mark-down** (märk'doun), n. 1. a reduction in price, usually to encourage buying. 2. the amount by which a price is reduced. [Amer.; n. use of v. phrase *mark down*]

**marked** (märkt), adj. 1. strikingly noticeable; conspicuous; with marked success. 2. watched as an object of suspicion or vengeance: a marked man. 3. having a mark or marks; beautifully marked birds: to read the marked pages. 4. Ling. a. (of a phoneme) characterized by the presence of a phonological feature that serves to distinguish it from an otherwise similar phoneme lacking that feature, as (d), which, in contrast to (t), is characterized by the presence of voicing. b. characterized by the presence of a marker indicating the grammatical function of a construction, as the plural in English, which, in contrast to the singular, is typically indicated by the presence of the marker -s. c. specifying an additional element of meaning, in contrast to a semantically related item, as *drake* in contrast to *duck*, where *drake* specifies "male" while *duck* does not necessarily specify sex. d. occurring less typically than an alternative form, as the word order in *Down he fell* in contrast to the more usual order of *He fell down*. Cf. *unmarked* (def. 2). [ME; OE *gemearcian*; see MARK<sup>1</sup>, -ED<sup>1</sup>] —*mark-ed* (mär'kid), adj. —*mark-ed-ness*, n.

—Syn. 1. striking, outstanding, obvious, prominent.

**marker** (mär'kar), n. 1. a person or thing that marks. 2. something used as a mark or indication, as a bookmark or tombstone. 3. a person who records the scores, points, etc., as in a game or contest. 4. a counter used in card playing. 5. Genetics. See *genetic marker*.

6. Psychol. an object, as a book or topcoat left at a library table, used to establish territorial possession in a public place. 7. Ling. a. an element of a construction, as a coordinating conjunction, that is not a part of either immediate constituent. b. an element that indicates the grammatical class or function of a construction. 8. a small radio beacon, automatically operated, used for local navigation of vessels. 9. mile-marker. 10. Also called *mark'er pen*, *marking pen*, a pen designed for making bold, colorful, or indelible marks, as in making signs. 11. Slang. a. debt, esp. a gambling debt. b. a written or signed promise to pay a debt, esp. a gambling debt; a promissory note or IOU. 12. Also called *mark'* or *crude*. Com. a grade of oil on which prices of other crude oils are based. 13. CB Radio Slang. one's location while driving on a highway, as determined by the nearest milepost. [1480-90; MARK<sup>1</sup> + -ER<sup>1</sup>]

**mark'er gene'**, Genetics. See *genetic marker*.

**market** (mär'kit), n. 1. an open place or a covered

building where buyers and sellers convene for the sale of goods; a marketplace; a *farmers' market*. 2. a store for the sale of food; a *meat market*. 3. a meeting of people for selling and buying. 4. the assemblage of people at such a meeting. 5. trade or traffic, esp. as regards a particular commodity: *the market in cotton*. 6. a body of persons carrying on extensive transactions in a specified commodity: *the cotton market*. 7. the field of trade or business: *the best shoes in the market*. 8. demand for a commodity: *an unprecedented market for leather*. 9. a body of existing or potential buyers for specific goods or services: *the health-food market*. 10. a region in which goods and services are bought, sold, or used: *the foreign market*, *the New England market*. 11. current price or value: *a rising market for shoes*. 12. See *stock market*. 13. at the market, at the prevailing price in the open market. 14. in the market for, ready to buy; interested in buying: I'm in the market for a new car. 15. on the market, for sale; available: *Fresh asparagus will be on the market this week*. —v.i. 16. to buy or sell in a market; deal. 17. to buy food and provisions for the home. —v.t. 18. to carry or send to market for disposal: to market produce every week. 19. to dispose of in a market; sell. [1100-1150; ME, late OE < VL *\*mercatus*. L *mercatus* trading, traffic, market] —*mark'et-er*, n. —Syn. 19. vend, merchandise, peddle.

**mar-ket-a-ble** (mür'ki bəl), adj. 1. readily salable. 2. of or pertaining to selling or buying: *marketable values*; *marketable areas*. [1590-1600; MARKET + -ABLE]

**mar'ket-a-bl-i-ty**, mar'ket-a-ble-ness, n. —*mar'ket-a-bly*, adv.

**mar'ket-a-ble ti/tle**, Law. a title to real property that is free from encumbrances, litigation, and other defects and that can readily be sold or mortgaged to a reasonable buyer or mortgagee. Also called *good title*, *merchantable title*, *sound title*.

**mar'ket anal/y sis**, Com. the process of determining factors, conditions, and characteristics of a market. —*mar'ket anal/y st*.

**mar'ket boat'**, 1. a boat that transfers fish from a fishing fleet to a market on shore. 2. a boat for carrying produce to market. 3. a boat assigned or used to bring provisions to a ship. [1770-80, Amer.]

**mar'ket crab'**. See *dungeness crab*.

**mar'ket-er** (mür'ki ter'), n. a person who sells goods or services in or to a market. [1825-35; MARKET + -ER]

**mar'ket gar/den**, 1. a garden or farm for growing vegetables to be shipped esp. to local or nearby markets. Cf. *truck farm*. 2. Brit. See *truck farm*. 3. (caps.) Mil. the Allied code name for the unsuccessful invasion of Holland by British and American airborne and infantry forces on September 17, 1944. [1805-15] —*mar'ket gar/dener*. —*mar'ket gar/dening*.

**mar'ket-ing** (mür'ki ting), n. 1. the act of buying or selling in a market. 2. the total of activities involved in the transfer of goods from the producer or seller to the consumer or buyer, including advertising, shipping, storing, and selling. [1555-65; MARKET + -ING<sup>1</sup>]

**mar'ket let/ter**, a publication containing information concerning market conditions, expectations, etc., esp. one produced by a securities brokerage firm or other financial organization.

**mar'ket or/der**, Stock Exchange, an order to buy or sell a specified amount of a security at the best price available. Cf. *limit order*, *stop order*. [1915-20]

**mar'ket-place** (mär'kit plas'), n. 1. an open area in a town where a market is held. 2. the commercial world; the realm of business, trade, and economics. 3. any sphere considered as a place where ideas, thoughts, artistic creations, etc., compete for recognition. Also, *market place*. [1350-1400; ME; see MARKET, PLACE]

**mar'ket price'**, the price at which a commodity, security, or service is selling in the open market. Also called *market value*. [1400-50; late ME]

**mar'ket re/search**, the gathering and studying of data relating to consumer preferences, purchasing power, etc., esp. prior to introducing a product on the market. [1925-30]

**mar'ket-re-search** (mär'kit rē'sūrkh', -ri sūrkh'), v.t. to conduct market research on. [1965-70]

**mar'ket share'**, Econ. the specific percentage of total industry sales of a particular product achieved by a single company in a given period of time.

**mar'ket town'**, a town where a regularly scheduled market is held. [1400-50; late ME]

**mar'ket val/ue**, 1. the value of a business, property, etc., in terms of what it can be sold for on the open market; current value (distinguished from *book value*). 2. See *market price*. [1685-95]

**Mar'kevich** (mär'ké vich; Russ. mur'kye'vyich), n. Igor (ë'gor), 1912-83, Russian conductor and composer.

**Mark-ham** (mär'käm), n. 1. (Charles) Edwin, 1852-1940, U.S. poet. 2. Mount, a mountain in Antarctica, SW of the Ross Sea, 15,100 ft. (4600 m.). 3. a town in SE Ontario, in S Canada, near Toronto. 77,037. 4. a city in NE Illinois, near Chicago. 15,172.

**mark-hoor** (mär'kōr), n., pl. -hoors, (esp. collectively) -hoor, markhor.

**mar'khor** (mär'kōr), n., pl. -khoras, (esp. collectively) -khor, a wild goat, *Capra falconeri*, of mountainous regions from Afghanistan to India, having compressed, spiral horns and long, shaggy hair; all populations are threatened or endangered. Also, *markhor*. [1865-70; CONCISE PRONUNCIATION KEY: act, cape, däre, päärt; set, equal; if, ice; over, order, oil, bōök, bōöt; out, up; ürge; child; sing; shoe; thin; that; zh as in treasure. a = a as in alone, e as in system, i as in easy, o as in gallop, u as in circus; ^ as in fire (fī^), hour (ou^r), l and n can serve as syllabic consonants, as in cradle (krädl), and button (but'n). See the full key inside the front cover.]